IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 4-5, 7, 11, 14-15, 17, 21, 24-25, and 27 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method, executed by a broadcasting server, for controlling interlock of an interactive service with data broadcasting, said method comprising:

acquiring information specifying an interactive service associated with data broadcasting and information specifying a service time of said interactive service;

transmitting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, which are acquired in said acquiring, to an interactive server, which is independent from said broadcasting server, and which executes an application that provides said interactive service to a broadcasting receiver <u>in response to an access from said broadcasting receiver; and</u>

<u>transmitting, to said broadcasting receiver, data broadcasting contents associated with said interactive service at said service time specified by said information specifying said service time.</u>

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said acquiring includes extracting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time from interactive service organization information.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said acquiring further includes extracting second information specifying said interactive service from content information of said data broadcasting and comparing the second extracted information with said information specifying said interactive service extracted from said interactive service organization information.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein in said transmitting <u>said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time</u>, said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, together with content information of said data broadcasting, are

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distributed to said interactive server.

5.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising generating information as to whether each interactive service must be activated at present based on said information specifying said service time of each said interactive service, and

wherein in said transmitting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, said information as to whether each said interactive service must be activated at present is further transmitted.

6.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising, if information indicating an operating state of said interactive service is received from said interactive server, deleting or invalidating designation of an inactive interactive service in content information of said data broadcasting.

7.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method, executed by an interactive server that provides an interactive service associated with data broadcasting to a broadcasting receiver, for controlling interlock of said an interactive service with said data broadcasting in an interactive server that provides said interactive service associated with said data broadcasting to a broadcasting receiver, said method comprising:

receiving and storing a set of information specifying an interactive service and information specifying a service time of said interactive service from a broadcasting server in one or a plurality of broadcasting stations, wherein said broadcasting server is managed independently from said interactive server;

extracting, from the stored set of said information, a set of information specifying a specific interactive service having a relation to said interactive server and information specifying a service time of that said specific interactive service by using the received information specifying said interactive service; and

controlling activation and deactivation of each said interactive service based on said extracted set of said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time of that interactive service.

8.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein in said controlling said activation and deactivation, if it is judged that a service start time has arrived based on said information specifying said service time, a flag of the corresponding

interactive service is set ON,

if it is judged that a service termination time has arrived based on said information specifying said service time, a flag of the corresponding interactive service is set OFF, and

an interactive service is activated or deactivated based on said flag of said interactive service.

9.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The method as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:

acquiring information indicating an operating state of said interactive service; and

transmitting said information indicating said operating state of said interactive service to a broadcasting server associated with said data broadcasting.

10.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The method as set forth in claim 9, wherein said acquiring includes specifying that the interactive service is active in a case where a response indicating that the interactive service is active is received from the interactive service.

11.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A program embodied on a medium, for causing a computer to control a method, executed by a broadcasting server, for controlling interlock of an interactive service with data broadcasting, said program comprising:

acquiring information specifying an interactive service associated with data broadcasting and information specifying a service time of said interactive service:

transmitting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, which are acquired in said acquiring, to an interactive server, which is independent from said broadcasting server and which executes an application that provides said interactive service to a broadcasting server in response to an access from said broadcasting server; and

transmitting, to said broadcasting server, data broadcasting contents associated with said interactive service at said service time specified by said information specifying said service time.

12.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The program as set forth in claim 11, wherein said acquiring includes extracting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time from interactive service organization information.

13.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The program as set forth in claim 12, wherein

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said acquiring further includes extracting second information specifying said interactive service from content information of said data broadcasting and comparing the second extracted information with said information specifying said interactive service extracted from said interactive service organization information.

14.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   The program as set forth in claim 11, wherein in said transmitting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, together with content information of said data broadcasting, are distributed to said interactive server.

15.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   The program as set forth in claim 11, further comprising generating information as to whether each interactive service must be activated at present based on said information specifying said service time of each said interactive service, and

wherein in said transmitting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, said information as to whether each said interactive service must be activated at present is further transmitted.

16.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The program as set forth in claim 11, further comprising, if information indicating an operating state of said interactive service is received from said interactive server, deleting or invalidating designation of an inactive interactive service in content information of said data broadcasting.

17.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A program embodied on a medium, for causing an interactive server that provides an interactive service associated with data broadcasting to a broadcasting receiver, to control interlock of the interactive service with said data broadcasting to a broadcasting receiver, said program comprising:

receiving and storing a set of information specifying an interactive service and information specifying a service time of said interactive service from a broadcasting server in one or a plurality of broadcasting stations, wherein said broadcasting server is managed independently from said interactive server;

extracting, from the stored set of said information, a set of information specifying a specific interactive service having a relation to said interactive server and information specifying a service time of that said specific interactive service by using the received

~~information specifying said interactive service~~; and

controlling activation and deactivation each said interactive service based on said extracted set of said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time of that interactive service.

18.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The program as set forth in claim 17, wherein in said controlling said activation and deactivation, if it is judged that a service start time has arrived based on said information specifying said service time, a flag of the corresponding interactive service is set ON,

if it is judged that a service termination time has arrived based on said information specifying said service time, a flag of the corresponding interactive service is set OFF, and

an interactive service is activated or deactivated based on said flag of said interactive service.

19.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The program as set forth in claim 17, further comprising:

acquiring information indicating an operating state of said interactive service; and

transmitting said information indicating said operating state of said interactive service to a broadcasting server associated with said data broadcasting.

20.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The program as set forth in claim 19, wherein said acquiring includes specifying that the interactive service is active in a case where a response indicating that the interactive service is active is received from the interactive service.

21.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for controlling a method, executed by a broadcasting server, for controlling interlock of an interactive service with data broadcasting, comprising:

means for acquiring information specifying an interactive service associated with data broadcasting and information specifying a service time of said interactive service;

a transmitter to transmit said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, which are acquired by said means for acquiring, to an interactive server, which is independent from said broadcasting server, and which executes an application that provides said interactive service to a broadcasting receiver in response to an access from said broadcasting receiver; and

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transmitting, to said broadcasting receiver, data broadcasting contents associated with said interactive service at said service time specified by said information specifying said service time.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein said means for acquiring includes means for extracting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time from interactive service organization information.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 22, wherein said means for acquiring further includes means for extracting second information specifying said interactive service from content information of said data broadcasting, and for comparing the second extracted information with said information specifying said interactive service extracted from said interactive service organization information.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein said transmitter transmitting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, distributes said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, together with content information of said data broadcasting to said interactive server.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, further comprising a generator generating information as to whether each interactive service must be activated at present based on said information specifying said service time of each said interactive service, and
wherein said transmitter transmitting said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time, further transmits said information as to whether each said interactive service must be activated at present.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
means for deleting or invalidating designation of an inactive interactive service in content information of said data broadcasting, if information indicating an operating state of said interactive service is received from said interactive server,

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27.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   An interactive server that provides an interactive service associated with data broadcasting to a broadcasting receiver for carrying out an interactive service associated with data broadcasting to a broadcasting receiver, comprising:

a receiver including a storage to receive and store a set of information specifying an interactive service and information specifying a service time of said interactive service from a broadcasting server in one or a plurality of broadcasting stations, wherein said broadcasting server is managed independently from said interactive server;

means for extracting a set of information, from the stored set of said information, specifying a specific interactive service having a relation to said interactive server and information specifying a service time of that said specific interactive service by using the received information specifying said interactive service; and

means for controlling activation and deactivation of each said interactive service based on said extracted set of said information specifying said interactive service and said information specifying said service time of that interactive service.

28.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The interactive server as set forth in claim 27, wherein if it is judged that a service start time has arrived based on said information for specifying said service time, said means for controlling said activation and deactivation sets a flag of the corresponding interactive service ON,

if it is judged that a service termination time has arrived based on said information specifying said service time, said means for controlling said activation and deactivation sets a flag of the corresponding interactive service OFF, and

said means for controlling said activation and deactivation activates or deactivates the interactive service on the basis of said flag of said interactive service.

29.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The interactive server as set forth in claim 27, further comprising:

means for acquiring information indicating an operating state of said interactive service; and

means for transmitting said information indicating said operating state of said interactive service to a broadcasting server associated with said data broadcasting.

30.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The interactive server as set forth in claim 29, wherein said means for acquiring comprises means for specifying that the interactive service is active in a case where a response indicating that the interactive service is active is received

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from the interactive service.